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BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 96-259-W/S - ORDER NO. 96-620

SEPTEMBER 9, 1996

IN RE: Complaint/Petition for Rate Reduction) ORDER and for Decertification filed by) DENYING Concerned Citizens Against Carolina) MOTION Water, Inc.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") on the August 12, 1996 Motion of the Concerned Citizens Against Carolina Water, Inc. ("the Citizens") to request and direct intervention in this case.

The Citizens have sought an Order from the Commission containing the following:

- An Order directing the Office of General Counsel to the Public Service Commission to intervene on behalf of the Petitioners;
- 2. An Order requesting the Office of Attorney General to intervene on behalf of the Petitioners; and
- 3. An Order requesting the South Carolina Consumer Advocate to intervene on behalf of the Petitioners.

The Commission has some received responses from the entities listed above. The Office of General Counsel states its belief that a conflict would arise between representation of the Commission

Staff ("Staff") and the Petitioner. The Consumer Advocate has filed a response stating that although it intends to participate in the case, it intends to participate on behalf of all of the citizens of South Carolina.

We hereby deny the Motion of the Citizens. We agree with the General Counsel's office that its duties in representing Staff would conflict with any possible representation of the Citizens.

Second, the Consumer Advocate has already indicated its willingness and ability to participate in this case on behalf of all the citizens of South Carolina.

Third, we decline to order participation by the Attorney General. However, Staff is instructed to write a letter to the Attorney General, welcoming any participation which the Attorney General deems appropriate in this matter.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)